



File Code: 1950

Date: June 10, 2014

Dear Interested Parties,

The Denny Creek Franklin Falls Trail and Trailhead Project has begun a 45-day objection period prior to a final decision. Enclosed is the draft Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact for the project. The environmental analysis began with a public scoping period on August 8, 2012. Public comments received were considered as we completed the analysis, modified the Proposed Action, and made a preliminary decision. I plan to select Alternative 2, the Proposed Action, from the Environmental Assessment (EA) for implementation.

The alternative to be selected would: (1) Install a gate across Forest Service Road (FSR) 5830 on the east side of the bridge over the South Fork Snoqualmie River; (2) Close 0.25 miles of FSR 5830 to public vehicular use; (3) Install a gate across FSR 5830-010 at its junction with FSR 5830; (4) Close all 0.15 miles of FSR 5830-010 to public vehicular use; (5) Create 125 new parking places in four areas along a re-established spur of FSR 5800; (6) Install new double-vault outhouses at proposed new Parking Areas A and C; (7) Construct four new trails, each about 500 feet in length, to connect parking areas with trailheads and campgrounds; (8) Reconstruct and/or relocate approximately 1975 feet of the existing Franklin Falls trail.

The project is located in King County, Washington, on the Snoqualmie Ranger District, Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest (MBS). The pertinent recreation sites are located adjacent to Milepost 50 of Interstate 90, in the Denny Creek drainage within the South Fork Snoqualmie River watershed in T. 22 N., R. 11 E. Sec. 8, NW ¼ and Sec. 5, NW ¼ and SW ¼ W.M.

Electronic copies of the Draft Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact (DN/FONSI), the EA, and other related documents, are available on the MBS Forest website at: <http://go.usa.gov/8sXA>. Documentation is also available at the Snoqualmie Ranger Station, at the address listed in the letterhead above. The project and the preliminary decision are subject to pre-decisional administrative review under 36 CFR 218, subpart B. Only those who provided specific, written comments during the combined scoping and 30-day comment period may file an objection. Objections must meet the requirements of 36 CFR 218.8(d). Detailed objection information is on pages 10 and 11 of the enclosed Decision Notice.

If no objections are filed within the 45-day time period, implementation of the plan amendment may occur on or after the 5th business day from the close of the objection filing period. If an objection is filed, the reviewing officer must issue a written response to the objector within 90 days of the end of the objection-filing period. The responsible official may not issue a Final Decision Notice until the reviewing officer has responded in writing to all objections (36 CFR 218.12 (a)).



For additional information, please contact Rachel Lipsky, Team Leader, at (425) 888-8750 or rslipsky@fs.fed.us. I appreciate your interest in this project.

Sincerely,

MARTIE SCHRAMM
Snoqualmie District Ranger

Enclosure: Draft DN-FONSI